

DECISION RECORD AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
PUD NO. 1 OF OKANOGAN CO. 115kV TRANSMISSION/FIBER OPTIC LINE
(WAOR 57174 and WAOR 57175)

A. Recommendation

It is my recommendation that the proposed action be approved and the PUD be granted separate rights-of-way for their existing 115kV electric power transmission line and proposed fiber optic cable. I further recommend that the R/W's be issued for a term of 20 years, with an option for renewal, and that they be subject to the standard operating procedures for these types of projects, as well as stipulations to address items of concern listed in the environmental assessment.

B. Rationale

Pursuant to Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1761) the BLM may issue rights-of-way to the PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County for the subject uses. To do so will provide the PUD an authorization for their existing transmission line and will allow them to install a fiber optic communication cable. The transmission line has been in place for over 50 years and does not appear to be causing any problems. Anticipated impacts from installation of the fiber optic cable would be minimal, with no expected surface disturbance on the public land.

/s/ William Schurger
Realty Specialist

June 26, 2002
Date

C. Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the environmental assessment and other available information, I have determined that the proposed action and approved mitigation measures are adequate. Consideration has been given to all applicable resource values, and the proposed action will not have any significant effects on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

/s/ James F. Fisher
Field Manager, Wenatchee Resource Area

June 27, 2002
Date

D. Decision

The above recommendations are approved as the decision of the Bureau of Land Management on the proposed action.

/s/ James F. Fisher
Field Manager, Wenatchee Resource Area

June 27, 2002
Date